



## **Board Bulletin – May 2019**

The Board of Trustees met on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019, with the main focus of the meeting on the appointment of Professor Geoff Smith as our new Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive, and the refreshed Strategic Plan.

### **Appointment of new Vice Chancellor**

As you will no doubt be aware by now, the Board has appointed Professor Geoff Smith as our new Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive, and we are looking forward to him joining us on 12<sup>th</sup> August. The Board was particularly pleased that so many staff, students and alumni were able to share their thoughts on Regent's values, which fed into the recruitment process. I would also like to thank all those who participated in the focus groups and reported back on the candidates. Your views were an important factor in reaching our decision. I would also like to thank Sue Shutter and Anwar Ibrahim for the excellent support they gave the Selection Panel.

### **Trustees**

At this meeting, a number of Trustees were reappointed to the Board on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee. Sadly, we are saying goodbye to one Trustee – Amanda Bringans – who also chaired our Development Committee. Amanda has decided that her demanding day-job as Director of Fundraising at the British Heart Foundation does not allow her sufficient time to dedicate to Regent's. We are particularly grateful for her contributions in relation to fundraising and alumni.

### **Acting Vice Chancellor's Report**

The report included the following items:

- Graduation ceremonies
- Student recruitment Sept 2019
- Data analytics
- Academic misconduct

- Refectory refurbishment
- Non-Continuation HESA Performance Indicator
- Public Benefit and Outreach
- Thank you dinner – donors, volunteers, mentors
- Library award
- Student/Alumni successes
- UUK/NUS BAME attainment gap framework

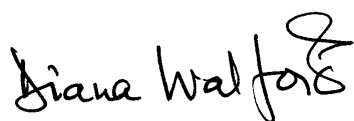
We are aware that academic misconduct, including plagiarism and the use of essay mills, is regrettably not uncommon in universities. We are pleased to see that action has been taken against students who have engaged in such activities. We hope that future programme and assessment changes will design out inappropriate use of the internet and essay mills, and advancements in technology will aid detection.

### **Strategic Plan**

The Board has now approved the refreshed Strategic Plan. The budget, financial forward plan and key performance indicators, which accompany the Strategic Plan, will come to the July Board meeting. The Strategic Plan is centred on simplification and differentiation with the mission ‘developing tomorrow’s global leaders’ remaining as the cornerstone. Discussions over the past year have focused on identifying Regent’s distinctive characteristics in 2030 and on the immediate priorities of improving academic student success (retention and progression), developing Regent’s culture and behaviours and achieving the 2019/2020 recruitment targets. The Acting Vice Chancellor will introduce the Strategic Plan to staff at a Town Hall meeting in early June.

The Board intends that this will be a live document that is open to feedback and input from staff.

With best wishes



**Dr Diana Walford**

**Chair of the Board of Trustees**